

26 February 1982

NOTE FOR:

FROM: Walter Elder

Bob:

Your comments, please.

I have gone back to my draft of the DCID, with some changes, for what seems to me to be a good reason. You have to keep enough specifics to base the list of attachments on some solid foundation.

As my senior advisor, I want your reactions to my broader proposal as well, especially since your horse is pulling this bigger wagon.

Walter Elder

ACTION

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA:

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Director, Intelligence Community Staff

FROM: Walter Elder
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Draft DCID on Security Committee

1. Action Requested: That you review the attached draft DCI directive on the Security Committee (and the rationale underlying the proposed revision); and approve the directive for circulation to the Security Committee for comment.

2. Background: The revised DCI directive, which results from consultation between the Chairman, Security Committee, and the Executive Secretary, NFIB/NFIC, is intended to provide a broad general charter for the committee. This directive would replace seven existing directives and the voluminous material on guidelines, standards, and procedures which form attachments to the existing guidelines.

and I believe that a separation of the general charter for the Security Committee from the implementing procedures offers some advantages to you, the DDCI, and other busy senior officials of the Intelligence Community. The general charter, which is based directly on Section 1.5, paragraphs (g) and (h) of Executive Order 12333 states the DCI's duties and responsibilities and delegates advisory authority to the Security Committee. It also stipulates a number of specific tasks for the committee to carry out, but these do not limit the DCI's authority or involve the DCI, the DDCI, and the Intelligence Community principals unnecessarily in the specific details of procedures and standards.

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The objective in the case of the Security Committee is to state the general charter in what is proposed to be Volume One of the DCI directives series. The specifics, which would be in Volume Two of the directives series, would incorporate almost all the guidance presently included in seven DCI directives and their attachments. This material would have the force of a DCI directive, but adjustments can be made without bringing the basic terms of reference under scrutiny whenever revisions in procedures are called for. Recognizing the DDCI's general responsibility for this and all the other committees, a clear separation between the broad charter and the detailed implementations thereof does, we think, provide flexibility to the DCI and DDCI as well as the committee.

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I cannot promise any practical impact on the conduct of national intelligence activities, but I believe that the busy senior official will find a relatively slim volume of broad directives more useful as a reference guide if he does not also at the same time have to wade through the considerable volume of implementing procedures.

There is another advantage. In constructing an independent series of DCI directives, I have found that by borrowing the still relevant provisions of the existing NSCIDs, one can write broad DCIDs. At the same time, the specific language in many of the existing DCIDs can be placed in implementing attachments. The result is that the existing NSCIDs wither away. When one borrows what one needs for a new DCID series from the existing NSCIDs, what is left is a mixture of anachronisms and superfluities.

For example, there is relevant language in NSCID 2 and 3 on the overt collection of intelligence and the production of intelligence which can be transformed into general DCI directives which confirm and refine existing divisions of labor to cover overt collection and production of the whole range of intelligence categories from military, political, economic through sociological, terrorism, and biographic information. My consultants in CIA/DDI are pondering my preliminary approaches along this line.

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3. Recommendation:

a. That you approve the revised DCI directive for the Security Committee for consideration by the Committee members.

b. That you provide me your guidance on my proposed two-volume approach in general.

Walter Elder

Attachment:

Draft DCID/Security Committee

a. APPROVED: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

b. APPROVED: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

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